



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
GROUP ART UNIT 2834

In re

Patent Application of

Jeffrey C. Hessenberger et al.

Serial No. 09/911,188

Filed: July 23, 2001

Examiner: Julio C. Gonzalez

Confirmation No. 2352

"FIELD ASSEMBLY AND
METHODS FOR ASSEMBLING A
FIELD ASSEMBLY"

I, Chad W. Shea, hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the US Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on the date of my signature.

Chad W. Shea
Signature

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RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This communication responds to the Office action mailed November 27, 2002.

The Examiner has identified in the application five groups of claims as follows: Group I (Claims 1-11), drawn to a field assembly; Group II (Claims 12-18), drawn to a field assembly; Group III (Claims 19-25), drawn to a method of making a field assembly; Group IV (Claim 26), drawn to a method of assembling an electric motor; and Group V (Claims 27-38), drawn to a field assembly for an electric motor. The Examiner has required election of one of these groups of claims.

Applicants contend that the Examiner has improperly required restriction of the application. However, Applicants' attorney elects to prosecute Claims 1-11 of

Group I with traverse and respectfully requests reconsideration of the restriction requirement.

Applicants' attorney respectfully traverses the restriction requirement because there is no serious burden on the Examiner.

In Group I, independent Claim 1 recites a field assembly comprising, among other things, "a field core (including) a winding support structure....wire redirection structure supported on the field core...and a winding... being wound on the winding support structure and the wire redirection structure." Dependent Claim 2 defines, among other things, "a terminal plate connected to the field core."

In Group II, independent Claim 12 recites a field assembly comprising, among other things, "a field core...including a winding support structure...a terminal plate connected to...the field core... wire redirection structure supported on the field core....and a winding ... being wound on the winding support structure and the wire redirection structure"

Based upon a review of the subject matter recited in Groups I and II identified by the Examiner, the field assembly of Group I and the field assembly of Group II are so inextricably related to one another that the inventions should be examined in a single application. A complete and thorough search of the prior art relating to either the field assembly of Group I or the field assembly of Group II, as claimed in the application, would require a search of the subject matter of the other.

The Examiner has noted the inventions of Group II and Group III are related as process and apparatus for its practice. Based upon a review of the subject matter recited in Groups II and III identified by the Examiner, the field assembly of Group II

and the method of assembling a field assembly of Group III are so inextricably related to one another that the inventions should be examined in a single application. A complete and thorough search of the prior art relating to either the field assembly of Group II or the method of assembling a field assembly of Group III, as claimed in the application, would require a search of the subject matter of the other.

Practicality and efficiency and the lack of serious burden on the Examiner dictate that the claims should be retained and the restriction requirement should be at least partially withdrawn. The restriction requirement, if sustained, will prejudice the Applicant because of the increased cost to the Applicant arising from further substantial filing fees and prosecution costs.

In view of the foregoing, at least partial withdrawal of the restriction requirement and, in the alternative, consideration of Claims 1-11 of the elected Group I on the merits are respectfully requested.

The undersigned is available for telephone consultation during normal business hours at (262) 956-6525.

Respectfully submitted,



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